

THE CASE OF IRELAND

In 1762.

Submitted to the Consideration of the People of that
K I N G D O M.

E'NGLAND has enjoyed frequent choice of Representatives, as long as time can be traced. Their MODUS of holding Parliaments was granted to your Ancestors, six or seven hundred years ago: And, in virtue of it, they enjoyed change of Parliaments till the Reign of *George* the first. Then, were you tyed to one Parliament during his life: But none murmured. Your attention to the fatal consequences of this dangerous innovation, was over-powered by your joy at getting rid of the *Stuarts*.

The unprecedented prolongation of Parliament in that Reign, taught Members to relish it in the next: So, instead of remonstrating, on behalf of their Constituents; they combined against them, adopting every measure tending to keep power in their own hands, thirty or forty years. In consequence of this, you found yourselves in subjugation to a set of men, not to be matched in History the seeds of



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of their Corruption spreading itself, thro' all ranks in the Kingdom.

Towards the close of their Usurpation, when they saw that by course of nature it could not last long; to sooth Constituents, harrassed by Oppression, they pass a decennial Bill; well satisfied, that it would be rejected by their Friends in Council. Had it passed into a law; it could not have relieved you from the Factions, venality and tyrannical exercise of aristocratical power, become habitual and confirmed

No remedy. You could not chuse Representatives; nor fill Vacancies, when they happened. Scarce a Member was received, from the voice of Constituents: The seat was filled by order of a Prelate, setting aside your Elections.---A grievance, alike insupportable and impossible to arise, but under anticonstitutional Parliaments: Kept on Foot to dotage, they are not even their own Guardians; they sell themselves.

You had an upright King; but what did that avail? He believed, he had a Parliament; and knew, he had a loyal People; but he admitted to know their suffering common injury to him and them

them--Imposed on by the very men, under tye of Office, bound to give him true information of the sense of his People, and state of his Kingdom: His strength, impaired by misapplication of public money; and still more impaired, by distributing it to corrupt his subjects.

As long Parliaments had introduced these enormous evils; short ones could, alone, be the certain, natural remedy to eradicate them.

The act of Providence, at length, makes way for a new Parliament. The Nation, pierced with sufferings, under the last; cry aloud for short Parliaments. Addresses to the Crown, declarations from Candidates, and instructions to Representatives were innumerable. The very day your Parliament met (*October* the 22d) the natural and constitutional step was taken; a Bill, proposed, for your relief. Early in *December*, this Bill (for Septennial Parliaments) passed the Commons without division. *February* the 8th, it passed the Council. From *October* till *March*, the Nation was kept in highest hopes of redress; Insinuations, repeated, that your Bill would pass on 'tother side the water. All circumstances of conduct,

here,

here, did unite to raise and fix in you a full confidence of Relief.

Your Money-Bill passes into a Law, before *Christmas*. Throughout your Session, you pass Votes of credit for all that was asked. An additional Appointment of near 5000 pounds a year is voted, for his Majesty's Viceroys; tho' neither sought nor accepted by the exalted one who now fills that high station. Every thing, done; that was desired; and more than was desired. All done, with approbation of the People; and done, in confidence; not waiting to have any thing done for the Nation.

Thus, in full Security, you went to Rest; as willing to expose your Lives and Fortunes in defence of the Crown; as you were lately pleased at giving, to the utmost extent of your abilities, for supporting it.

At length, you awake; alarmed at the delays given to your Bill. You endeavour to trace the causes of delay. Then, you reflect on what was early said; that an high-soaring Ecclesiastic had the presumption to declare, that in every stage on this and 'tother side of the water, He would oppose your Bill.—You must not have

have change of Representatives ; because He'd find repeated difficulty in debauching new ones.

I will oppose the Nation every where, is language too imperious for a man who came pennyless into it ; threw Dice for a Profession (Sword or Gospel, the Prize) and damn'd the Cast that condemned him to the Church.

When such a man climbs to the pinnacle, shuts his bible and opens *Machiavel* ; let Grandees prepare to hold his Stirrup, as Emperors did the Pope's. Grandees may now have the Honour to pass for his Colleagues : But, when the Papacy is confirmed, by rejecting the Bill ; they will then be his subjects ; and you, theirs ; all, irredeemable, in the ordinary way—But the King has an infallible Remedy in his own hands : His People, therefore, cannot be dejected.

I had my Band of Hacks, in the last Parliament ; Mercenaries, enlisted to do what they were bid. At approach of Elections ; my Emissaries, like the Pope's, shall spread over the World. I plan ; they captivate. I will shew, that I can make Men act in contradiction to themselves ; make them publicly reject, what they publicly prayed for ;

for ; and what was publickly granted. Should your King give his Consent ; I will have your Bill rejected, afterwards ; and shew him, that he and his Subjects together, shall not make a Law without my consent.

Heavens! can the King have one single Subject, from the Viceroy to the Cocker, born so destitute of Sense and Spirit, as to stand an unconcerned Spectator at this audacious Insult on the Rights of the Crown, Parliament and People? this, coolly considered ; every Man must be convinced, that the Report of Neutrality, in a certain high Personage, was totally groundless.

This Bill must be good, bad or indifferent : If, good ; it merits support—If, bad ; it should be oppos'd, and doubtless would be so, by His Majesty's faithful Viceroy—If, indifferent ; a People warmly attached, as we are, to the Family on the Throne, might expect gratification in a matter of Indifference : In such a Case, reason and policy dictate Compliance ; to remove National fears and Jealousy.

The Nation, for the Bill--The commons, for the Bill--The Council, for the Bill--Where is the respectable Body, to
crave

crave Neutrality? Where, the Wisdom in granting it? The Report must be false. 'Tis impossible to be Neutral. Naught, but some unnatural Excreffence of Power, could presume to expect a Neutrality: And such Presumption, would evince the necessity of cutting off the Excreffence.

That we should retain some share of liberty; to tye our affections to Government; to animate us, in defence of our Country, against Invasion of Enemies; to preserve in us, a sense of the *British* Constitution, and, of course, a spirit and gratitude, on all Emergencies, to aid that glorious Nation from whom we had it; is surely desirable.

The human body is said to change, every seven years. Scarce, does that period revolve, but we see change of Morals and Manners, in our ordinary acquaintance; seldom, for the better, of late years. Men in publick trust and power are more susceptible of change, than the common Run of Men in private Life: Their temptations are stronger; and they are more frequently and more craftily beset.

You

You find that constituting Men Legislators, does not fortify them: they are still frail Men, and more exposed. If they are more exposed, you are so. If they hold Seats in Perpetuity, which you ought, at reasonable Periods; to fill with Representatives of your own choosing; they sit, in Exclusion of YOUR Representatives, and you have none.

A *Moor* or a *Russian* may drudge thro' life; born to Slavery, and educated in darkness; without view or Sense of any thing else. The Sons of *Britain*, outliving Freedom at home, would travel the Globe to find it; or they would not deserve it.

F I N I S.